

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraph [0035] as follow:

[0035] FIG. 8 is a schematic view of ~~the light-emitting element~~ an emitter shown in FIG. 7;

Please amend the following paragraph [0053] as follow:

[0053] In the present embodiment, the SW unit 4 and the ECU 5 are arranged as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4. More specifically, the distance between the light-emitting and light-receiving elements 11, 5b is set to 250 mm, and the vertical distances between the light-receiving element 5b and the seat cushion frame 2 and between the light-emitting element 11 and the seat cushion frame 2 are set to ~~60~~ 70 mm and ~~70~~ 60 mm, respectively, so that the vertical distance between the light-emitting and light-receiving elements 11, 5b is 10 mm.

Please amend the following paragraph [0075] as follow:

[0075] In this embodiment, the light-emitting element ~~+~~ 11 of the emitter and the light-receiving element 21 of the receiver are disposed to be directed upward, i.e., in a facing relation with the seat cushion frame, thereby preventing dust rising from the floor mat 6 from being adhered to these elements.

Please amend the following paragraph [0077] as follow:

[0077] The light-emitting element 11 is arranged that its optical axis coincides with the upstream section of the second optical-signal propagation path B, and the light-receiving element 21 is disposed, with its optical axis directed to between the first propagation path A and the downstream section of the second propagation path B. The distance between the light-emitting and light-receiving elements 11, 21 is set to 300 mm, the distances between the seat cushion frame 2 and the light-emitting element 11 and between the frame 2 and the light-receiving element 21 are set to ~~300 mm and~~ 50 mm, respectively. Thus, the first optical-signal propagation path A and the upstream section of the second propagation path B form an angle about 18 deg

therebetween, and the first propagation path A and the downstream section of the second propagation path B form an angle of about 18 deg therebetween.

Please amend the following paragraph [0083] as follow:

[0083] The transmission device of this embodiment contemplates ensuring a proper optical signal transmission even in an arrangement having the light-emitting and light-receiving elements disposed close to the reflector, and preventing adherence of ~~duet~~ dust to these elements.

Please amend the following paragraph [0101] as follow:

[0101] The transmission device of this embodiment comprises the light emitting and receiving unit 61a of the center cluster 61 and the light emitting and receiving unit 63 of the air conditioner unit 62. Each light emitting and receiving unit is comprised of an emitter and a receiver. The emitter includes a board that is mounted with a light-emitting element for generating an optical signal, e.g., of infrared ray and an emission control unit for controlling the light-emitting element. The receiver includes a light-receiving element for receiving an optical signal emitted from the light-emitting element. Various optical signals are transmitted between the units 61a and 63. For example, an optical signal for air conditioner control is transmitted from the unit 61a of the center cluster 61 to the unit 63 of the air conditioner unit 62, and an optical signal for illumination of an indicator is transmitted from the unit 63 to the unit 61a. The center cluster 61 and the air conditioner unit 62 have cabinets thereof each provided with a window member of glass or plastic for optical signal transmission. As shown in FIG. 19, a reinforcement 64 extends between the center cluster 61 and the air conditioner unit 62. A particular part of the reinforcement 64 constitutes a reflector 64a. The reinforcement 64 is made of iron and has a reflection factor of 65% as indicated in Table 2 shown below. In FIGS. 19 and 20, symbol A denotes a first optical-signal propagation path extending between the units 61a, 63, and symbol B denotes a second optical-signal propagation path extending between the unit 61a, reflector 64a and unit 63. As shown in FIG. 20, the distance between the units 61a, 63 is 300 mm, and the reinforcement 64 is separated 22 mm away from the first propagation path A in the vertical direction. In this configuration, an angle of about 8 deg is formed between the first propagation path A and a section of the second propagation path B on the center-cluster side and

Appl. No. : **09/761,532**
Filed : **January 16, 2001**

between the first propagation path A and another section of the second propagation path B on the air-conditioner-unit side. The light-emitting and light-receiving elements of each of the units 61a, 63 arranged with their optical axes directed to between the first and second propagation paths A and B, so that each optical axis extends at an angle of about 4 deg with respect to a corresponding one of the propagation paths A, B. ~~In FIGS. 18 and 19, reference numerals 61b and 61c denote the light-emitting and light-receiving elements of the light-emitting and receiving unit 61a, respectively, and 63a and 63b denote those of the unit 63.~~

Please amend the abstract as follows:

An optical signal transmission device includes an emitter, a receiver, and a reflector. The emitter includes a light-emitting element having an optical axis thereof deviating from a first propagation path toward a second propagation path such that a ratio of an incident intensity, at the receiver, of a second optical signal propagating along the second propagation path to an incident intensity, at the receiver, of a first optical signal propagating along the first propagation path is equal to or higher than a predetermined value at or above which a faulty ~~optical signal~~ optical signal transmission is not caused, whereby the second optical signal of a required level enters into the receiver for reliable and stable optical signal transmission.